

Press Release

ugichem extends scope of contract research with Cenix BioScience

DRESDEN, Germany, and INNSBRUCK, Austria; October 4, 2012 – Cenix BioScience GmbH, a leading contract research provider and technology developer specialized in RNAi-, miRNA- and high content-driven pharmacology and ugichem GmbH, a gene silencing company with an innovative chemistry approach dedicated to expanding the current RNA therapeutics space, today announced an extension of the contract research project initiated in mid-2011.

The present work will build on promising pharmacokinetic and functional data validating the unique therapeutic potential of Ugimers gleaned by ugichem from the first contract research project commissioned with Cenix, as well as from several parallel studies in recent months. Under the agreed new work plan, Cenix will continue to apply its long-standing expertise in combining gene silencing analyses with high content screening in cultured cells, to facilitate characterization and further optimization of ugichem's lead compounds.

"We are delighted that our preclinical contract research expertise has yet again proven useful," said Dr. Christophe Echeverri, CEO/CSO of Cenix. "We greatly appreciate and value ugichem's continuing trust, as we look forward to further advancing this innovative development project".

"During the past 12 months, assisted by expert contributions from Cenix, we have generated exciting data demonstrating absolutely unique properties of Ugimers for targeting immune tissues and cells," commented Dr. Holger Bock, CEO of ugichem. "The present project is expected to further validate our proprietary *Ugimer* platform in that direction".

About Cenix BioScience

With operations in Germany, Belgium and the U.S., Cenix BioScience conducts contract research and develops new reagent technologies focused on a wide array of preclinical cell-based and *in vivo* applications including RNAi-based gene silencing, miRNA modulation, compound testing, advanced genomics analyses and high content phenotyping to accelerate target discovery and validation, lead identification and optimization, drug mode of action studies, predictive toxicology and biomarker development. Now in its 13th year, Cenix has built up leading scientific and commercial track records, successfully advancing therapeutic programs for numerous top industry and academic partners in a broad range of disease fields. This success is anchored in the consistent application of industrial best practices within fully customized, multi-staged projects designed to offer maximal strategic value and accountability with carefully minimized risk and full data transparency. For more information, please visit the company's web site: www.cenix.com

About ugichem GmbH

ugichem is developing proprietary new gene silencing therapeutics, the so-called *Ugimers*, which allow to overcome all shortcomings of established gene silencing technologies such as antisense oligonucleotides or siRNAs. In contrast to the latter, *Ugimers* are not derived from natural nucleic acids but exclusively designed towards function. As a result cells currently inaccessible with standard gene silencing technologies or even defined cellular compartments become targetable by *Ugimers* without the need for additional delivery tools. ugichem's mission is to establish *Ugimers* as a new class of top-grade medicines, initially focusing on indications requiring targeting of immune cells which are currently not functionally accessible by standard gene silencing compounds. ugichem will further extend its *Ugimer* gene silencing technology into a therapeutic product platform dedicated to indications that are based on altered gene expression. For additional information, visit the company's web site: www.ugichem.com

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